



City of Biggs

Agenda Item Staff Report for the Regular City Council Meeting: April 18, 2011 6:00PM

DATE: April 11, 2011

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Pete Carr, City Administrator/Finance

SUBJECT: No-Parking Identification for Curbs (Discussion/Action)

Council will consider the value of, and issues with, painting curbs red at intersections in school zones.

Background

Councilmember Bottorff recently asked whether it would be advisable to paint curbs red at intersections near schools, noting that residents in some cases persist in parking on the corners. City administrator met with Public Works, Planning and Engineering as well as the Assistant Chief of Police to develop this report.

State Vehicle Code (Section 21458) and Biggs Municipal Code allow for the city to choose where parking should/should not be allowed, which curbs should be identified with red paint, and what parking restriction signage should be erected. Recent cases in point for Biggs include First Street between Aleut and B (east side), and Fifth Street from Trent partway to Bannock (east side). City designates, police enforce.

Some places are illegal to park statewide without specific identification, such as in front of driveways and fire hydrants, and within crosswalks. Additionally, parking can be restricted by signage or by colored curbs, or both.

Painted curbs tend to require much more cost in annual maintenance than signage, especially as sun and street sweepers impact the painted surfaces. Given this, city staff would tend to recommend

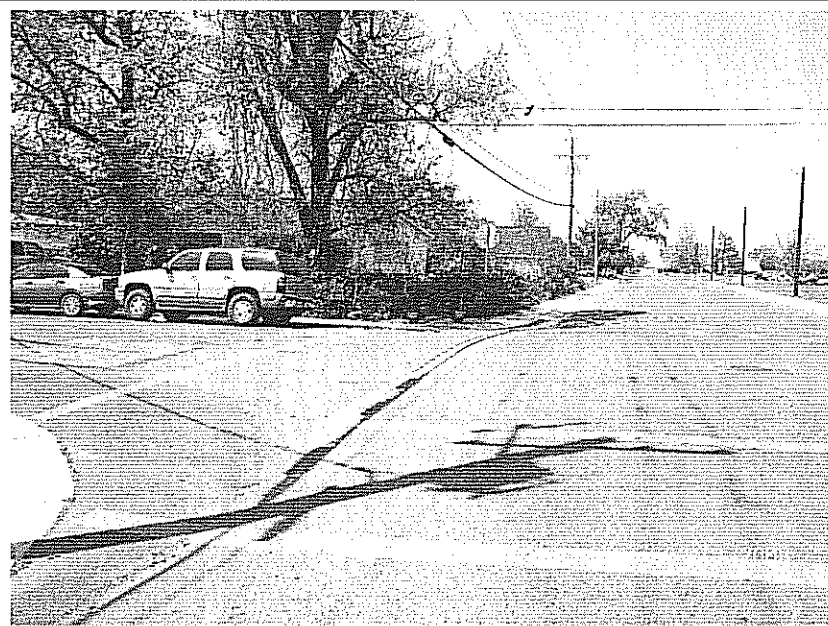


Figure 1 – Second & C – Typical Intersection

painting curbs red only in those unusual places where clearly necessary, where well-known law and signage are not adequate. Signage or red curbs may be deemed necessary where otherwise legal parking obstructs the "line-of-sight" required for safe driving around corners. In Figure 1, parking across the crosswalk would obviously be illegal and requires no additional signage. Local officials may determine, however, that additional restrictions are required for areas beyond the crosswalk.

The council will want to consider the issues with designating parking restrictions, but liability to the adjacent property owner is not one of them. When parking restrictions result in loss of parking in front of residential property, no compensation is due the property owner. On-street parking is not the right of any property owner. Real issues include necessity, enforceability, cost of installation and maintenance, aesthetics, and consistency.

Attachment: None.

Recommendation:

Direct staff. Staff does not recommend adding new parking restrictions at intersections near the schools at this time. The police department has recently been made aware of reported concerns about continued corner parking.

Fiscal Impact of Recommendation:

None. Signage is typically \$200-500 per sign including post, plus installation labor. Curb painting is the cost of durable curb paint plus labor, repeated annually.